

House Joint Resolution 3 - Introduced

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3
BY WILLS

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution applying for an Article V convention to
2 propose an amendment to the Constitution of the United
3 States that imposes specified limitations on the members of
4 Congress, and requesting Congress to similarly propose such
5 an amendment.
6 WHEREAS, all members of Congress have a responsibility to
7 serve professionally for the benefit of American citizens; and
8 WHEREAS, members of Congress should not be able to vote to
9 raise their own compensation; and
10 WHEREAS, members of Congress should not seek personal gain
11 from their service; and
12 WHEREAS, members of Congress must abide by all laws that
13 Congress imposes on American citizens; and
14 WHEREAS, the founders of the United States envisioned
15 serving Congress as an honor and privilege rather than as a
16 career; NOW THEREFORE,
17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
18 That the Congress of the United States is hereby petitioned
19 to propose an amendment to the Constitution of the United
20 States, for submission to the states for ratification, to
21 ensure that Congress shall make no law that applies to the
22 citizens of the United States that does not apply equally
23 to the members of Congress, and that Congress shall make no
24 law that applies to the members of Congress that does not
25 apply equally to the citizens of the United States; to remove
26 all forms of tenure, pension, and other benefits retained by
27 members of Congress after they leave office; to require that
28 all members of Congress past, present, and future participate
29 in social security and transfer all funds in the congressional
30 retirement fund to the social security system; to require
31 members of Congress to purchase their own retirement plans;

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32 to limit increases in congressional pay to the lesser of the
33 increase in the consumer price index, or three percent; to
34 eliminate the current congressional health care system and
35 require members of Congress to participate in the same health
36 care systems available to members of the American public;
37 and to void all contracts with past and present members of
38 Congress; and

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That pursuant to Article V of the
40 Constitution of the United States, the General Assembly, as
41 the Legislature of the State of Iowa, makes application to
42 the Congress of the United States to call a convention for
43 the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing the foregoing
44 amendment to the Constitution of the United States for
45 submission to the states for ratification; and

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this application constitutes
47 a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the
48 Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at
49 least two-thirds of the several states have made applications
50 for a similar convention under Article V, or the General
51 Assembly acts to withdraw this application; and

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State
53 shall transmit certified copies of this Joint Resolution
54 to the President and Secretary of the United States
55 Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of
56 Representatives, the presiding officer in each house of the
57 legislature in each of the states in the union, and to the
58 members of Iowa's congressional delegation requesting their
59 cooperation.

1

EXPLANATION

2

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3

4 This joint resolution provides that pursuant to Article V
5 of the United States Constitution, the Iowa General Assembly
6 both petitions the United States Congress to propose an
7 amendment to the United States Constitution on its own and
8 applies the United States Congress to call a convention for the
9 specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the
10 United States Constitution, for submission to the states for
11 ratification, to impose certain limits on and remove certain
12 privileges from members of Congress.

13 The proposed amendment to the United States Constitution
14 would subject members of Congress equally to all laws that
15 apply to citizens of the United States, remove benefits that
16 members of Congress receive after leaving office, require that
17 all past, present, and future members of Congress participate
18 in social security, require members of Congress to purchase
19 retirement plans, limit congressional pay increases, eliminate
20 the current congressional health care system, and void all
21 contracts with past and present members of Congress.

22 The joint resolution provides that it shall serve as a
23 continuing application to call a constitutional convention
24 until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several
25 states have made application for a similar convention, or the
26 Iowa General Assembly acts to withdraw the application.

27 Finally, the joint resolution requires the Secretary
28 of State to transmit certified copies of the resolution
29 to the President and Secretary of the United States
30 Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House
31 of Representatives, the presiding officer in each house of
32 the legislature in each of the states in the union, and the
33 members of Iowa's congressional delegation requesting their
34 cooperation.